

Translation

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY  
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| Applicant's or agent's file reference<br>03R00750   | FOR FURTHER ACTION  | See Form PCT/IPEA/416   |
| International application No.<br>PCT/JP2003/015748  | International filing date (day/month/year)<br>09 December 2003 (09.12.2003) | Priority date (day/month/year)<br>12 December 2002 (12.12.2002) |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC<br>G02F 1/1333 |   |   |
| Applicant<br>SHARP KABUSHIKI KAISHA   |   |   |

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 3 sheets, including this cover sheet.
3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:
  - a.  (*sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau*) a total of \_\_\_\_\_ sheets, as follows:
    - sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).
    - sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.
  - b.  (*sent to the International Bureau only*) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) \_\_\_\_\_, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).
4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:
  - Box No. I Basis of the report
  - Box No. II Priority
  - Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
  - Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
  - Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
  - Box No. VI Certain documents cited
  - Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
  - Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Date of submission of the demand<br>14 June 2004 (14.06.2004) | Date of completion of this report<br>11 March 2005 (11.03.2005) |
| Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP                       | Authorized officer  |
| Facsimile No.   | Telephone No.   |

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2003/015748

## Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

- This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language \_\_\_\_\_, which is language of a translation furnished for the purpose of:
- international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
  - publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
  - international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

- The international application as originally filed/furnished  
 the description:  
 pages \_\_\_\_\_, as originally filed/furnished  
 pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_  
 pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_
- the claims:  
 pages \_\_\_\_\_, as originally filed/furnished  
 pages\* \_\_\_\_\_, as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19  
 pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_  
 pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_
- the drawings:  
 pages \_\_\_\_\_, as originally filed/furnished  
 pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_  
 pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_
- a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3.  The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- the description, pages \_\_\_\_\_
- the claims, Nos. \_\_\_\_\_
- the drawings, sheets/figs \_\_\_\_\_
- the sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_
- any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_

4.  This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

- the description, pages \_\_\_\_\_
- the claims, Nos. \_\_\_\_\_
- the drawings, sheets/figs \_\_\_\_\_
- the sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_
- any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_

\* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP03/15748

**Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

**1. Statement**

|                               |        |          |     |
|-------------------------------|--------|----------|-----|
| Novelty (N)                   | Claims | 4-6, 10  | YES |
|                               | Claims | 1-3, 7-9 | NO  |
| Inventive step (IS)           | Claims |          | YES |
|                               | Claims | 1-10     | NO  |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Claims | 1-10     | YES |
|                               | Claims |          | NO  |

**2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)**

Document 1: JP, 11-2812, A (Toshiba Corp.), 6 January, 1999 (06.01.99)

Document 2: JP, 2-242225, A (Seiko Epson Corp.), 26 September, 1990 (26.09.90)

Document 3: JP, 2002-156624, A (Fuji Photo Film Co., Ltd.), 31 May, 2002 (31.05.02)

Document 4: JP, 54-148548, A (K.K. Suwa Seikosha, presently named Seiko Epson Corp.), 20 November, 1979 (20.11.79)

The subject matters of claims 1-3 and 7-9 do not appear to be novel or to involve an inventive step, since they are described in document 1 (paragraphs [0023]-[0055]) cited in the ISR.

The subject matters of claims 4 and 5 do not appear to involve an inventive step in view of document 1 and document 2 (examples, "Effect of the invention") cited in the ISR. A person skilled in the art could have easily used a plastic plate with the properties described in document 2 as the plastic plate described in document 1.

The subject matter of claim 6 does not appear to involve an inventive step in view of document 1 and document 3 (the claims) cited in the ISR. A person skilled in the art could have easily used a plastic plate with the properties described in document 3 as the plastic plate described in document 1.

The subject matter of claim 10 does not appear to involve an inventive step in view of document 1 and document 4 (the claims) cited in the ISR. A person skilled in the art could have easily used the polarizing plate disposed as described in document 4 in the liquid crystal display device described in document 1.